

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the title as follows:

Polynucleotides Encoding a ~~Feedback Resistant Aspartokinase~~ Truncated ORF2 From
Corynebacterium

Please amend the Abstract as follows. Cancellation of material from the Abstract shall in no way indicate surrender of that subject matter to the extent that it is otherwise within the scope of the claims:

The invention provides methods to increase the production of an amino acid from Corynebacterium species by way of the amplification of amino acid biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome. Amplification may be by integration of one or more copies of a gene or genes into a host cell chromosome. One gene that may be incorporated is the gene ORF2, which may be obtained from Corynebacterium glutamicum. ~~The invention also provides novel processes for the production of an amino acid by way of the amplification of amino acid biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome and/or by increasing promoter strength. In a preferred embodiment, the invention provides processes to increase the production of L-lysine in Corynebacterium glutamicum by way of the amplification of L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome. The invention also provides novel isolated nucleic acid molecules for L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes of Corynebacterium glutamicum.~~

Please insert the following paragraph between the first and second full paragraphs beginning on page 9 of the specification:

The strain designated NRRL-B30360 was deposited according to the Budapest Treaty on October 31, 2000, at the Agricultural Research Service, Patent Culture Collection (NRRL), located at 1815 North University Street, Peoria, Illinois 61604.